

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

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Department of State

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SENT TO: Amembassy BONN 1355

RPTD INFO: USAREUR
USBER BERLIN 373
Amembassy LONDON 5846 10221
Amembassy MOSCOW (By Pouch)
Amembassy PARIS 2294

PARIS PASS USCINCEUR THURSTON AND WEST

Your 1307, and 1311 and 1345

Following are Department's comments on revision contingency planning re.

Berlin access:

1. Military vehicles and convoys: Instructions paragraph I, 1 Berlin 422 as modified paragraph 2 Bonn's 1307 approved.
2. Military trains: Instructions paragraph 4 Bonn's 1307 approved subject following comment paragraph 4 E. Our understanding is trains are now prepared cope with delay of day or so if necessary. Therefore believe it preferable, if tripartite agreement can be reached, that QUOTE last resort UNQUOTE of submitting to East German demands under protest be used only after waiting period of say twenty-four hours. In meantime East Germans might return train to point of origin on own initiative.

3. Private

Drafted by:

EUR:GER:GPA:TDMcKiernan:esw 12-23-58

Clearances:

GER - Mr. Hillenbrand
L - Col. Raymond (in draft)

Telegraphic transmission and

Classification approved by:

EUR - Foy D. Kohler

G - Mr. Murphy
Defense OSD/ISA - Col. Harris (in substance)

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3. Privately-owned vehicles: Re Bonn's 1311 Department does not believe travel by personnel in privately-owned vehicles should be suspended until it confirmed travelers cannot pass without submitting documentation to East German official or complying other formalities required by East Germans. With this understanding Department believes tripartite paper could follow lines paragraph 2 Berlin's 422. If USAREUR can arrange, Department sees no objection eventual issuance military license plates to Embassy and Consular personnel if necessary for travel to Berlin. Travel orders certify travel is in connection with occupation of Berlin and Embassy and Consular personnel may for this purpose be assimilated to Berlin occupation forces. Department doubts stoppage travel via privately-owned vehicles would have same impact on public opinion as stoppage of military movements by train or military vehicles. Nonetheless concurs some counteraction should be taken if former traffic stopped and would welcome Embassy's recommendations.

Defense concurs.

Herter

ACTING

(EDK)

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